



MAINISTIR BHUITHE (MONASTERBOICE) PARISH BULLETIN

7th Sunday of Ordinary Time - 19th February 2023 - Year A

Parish Priest: Fr. Paddy Rushe; 086 880 7470

www.monasterboiceparish.com



Temperance Sunday: Traditionally the Sunday before Lent begins, this is a day to reflect on those things in life which may be causing - or have the power to cause - addictions. A day which offers us an opportunity to pray about them, and for those who suffer from addictions.

Temperance is a virtue which can help us to moderate the attraction to substances like alcohol and so avoid excessive use. Sadly, Drug use/abuse is becoming **more** of a problem. A new report from the **Health Research Board (HRB)** presents findings from the **National Drug and Alcohol Survey (NDAS) 2019–20**, which shows that more people are using illegal stimulants, smoking less, and binge drinking remains high.

One-in-fourteen (7%) people have used an illegal drug in the last year. This hasn't changed since the most recent survey in 2014–15.

There has been an increase in the number of people who use illegal stimulants (*cocaine, ecstasy, amphetamines*) and a small decrease in the number of people using cannabis.

15–24-year-olds are most likely to report drug use. Men are twice as likely as women to use drugs.

A wider range of drugs are being used since the previous survey, with 25% of those who used drugs in the last year reporting use of at least three different drugs compared with 15% in 2014–15.

Cocaine use has increased across all age groups. Men aged 25–34 are most likely to report cocaine use in the last year, rising from 2% in 2002–03 to 9% in 2019–20.

Temperance Sunday: RTÉ will broadcast Mass at 11am to mark the occasion. Prayers will be offered for all who are in treatment for addiction and for those who are in recovery. The Offertory Hymn composed by Ephrem Feeley is a new arrangement of the Serenity Prayer.

Pope's Prayer Intention for February: We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity & welcome towards those most in need.

Pastoral Area: Along with Termonfechin, Clogherhead, and Togher, our Parish is part of the St. Colmcille's Pastoral Area: Contact numbers; Fr Paul Byrne 982 2121; Fr Martin McVeigh 982 2224; Monsignor Jim Carroll 98 89335.

Parish Office: Tuesdays from 2.30pm - 5.30pm; Our secretaries, Mary/Ann (087-3791443) will be able to take phone calls, & answer emails about parish (*certificates, etc*).

Psalm Response this week: *The Lord is compassion and love.*

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 22nd February: Ash Wednesday is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Mass & the Distribution of Ashes will take place at the following times; **9.30am** in The Church of the Nativity of Our Lady, Fieldstown and **7.30pm** in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Tenure. We are **strongly encouraged to attend Mass** on this important day. However, Ashes will **also** be distributed in Tenure from **8.15-9am**.

For Lent, we will be having a **7am Mass in Fieldstown on Thursday mornings, starting Thursday 23rd February.** **Stations of the Cross**, will be held on Monday evenings (*alternating Churches*) @ 7pm starting in Fieldstown on 27th. **"The Chosen" Film Series** (*see Website/Social Media*) will begin in The Forge at 6pm on the 26th.

I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO GIVES ME STRENGTH PHILIPPIANS 4:13

Nine-in-ten people support the use of cannabis for medical purposes, while less than three-in-ten support recreational use.

In areas that are most and least deprived there is little difference in the prevalence of drug use, while **communities with high levels of deprivation are disproportionately impacted by the negative effects of drug use activities in their local area.**

There are fewer smokers than ever before. The current survey is the first time that the proportion of ex-smokers was found to be greater than current smokers. Health concerns, cost and health warning labels were cited as the main reasons for quitting.

One-in-five drinkers have an Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD); this increases to one-in-three among drinkers aged 15–24 years. Drinkers with AUD were 13 times more likely to experience alcohol-related harm compared to low-risk drinkers.



Finance: **IN-** Church donations last weekend **€920 (General) €995 (Dues)**; The parish regularly receives **online** contributions approx. **€200** weekly. **Thank you for your generosity!**

Remembering the Deceased: Pray for those on the parish list of the dead, the deceased benefactors of the parish, & those who have died recently including; **Brendan Holcroft**, Drogheda & Maiden's Cross; **Shaun Conroy**, Altamuskin Co. Tyrone; **Olive Veldman**, South Africa & Bawntaffee; **Tommy Henry**, Ardee, formerly Tower View; **Fr. Liam Pentony**, Grangebellew; **Larry Murphy**, Kellystown; **Rev Deacon Martin Barlow**, Permanent Deacon in the Parish of Keady and Derrynoose; **John Duggan**, Drogheda; *Let us know of family members outside the parish who have died, so we can include them in prayer.*

NB ALL Masses can be accessed via www.churchservices.tv/monasterboice	
Day\Mass\Location	Intention
Saturday 18th Feb. @ 6.30pm (T)	Fr. Phelim McKeown (4th Av.)
Sunday 19th Feb. @ 9.45am (F/T)	Joan Briscoe (Av.) Ann McArdle (5th Av.) Shaun Conroy (Rec. decd)
Sunday 19th Feb. @ 11.15am (T)	Emily & Patrick Winters (Av.) Eva Hyland (2nd Av.)
Tuesday 21st Feb. @ 9.30am (T)	-
Wednesday 22nd Feb. @ 9.30am (F/T)	-
Wednesday 22nd Feb. @ 7.30pm (T)	-
Thursday 23rd Feb @ 7am (F/T)	-
Friday 24th Feb. @ 7pm (T)	World Day of Prayer for Victims of Child Sexual Abuse
Saturday 25th Feb. @ 6.30pm (T)	James & Mary Flood
Sunday 26th Feb. @ 9.45am (F/T)	Peter Quinn (1st Av.) Decd Mbrs & Associates of F/T Church Choir
Sunday 26th Feb. @ 11.15am (T)	Michael O'Brien Olive Farrell (1st Av.)

Trocaire Boxes are available in each Church: The face



on the Trócaire box in this anniversary year is 8-year-old Nasteha Mahat from the Gedo region of Somalia in East Africa. The Mahat family had to leave their farm and village when the last of their goats died from drought and they had absolutely nothing left. Some months before, Nasteha's two-year-old sister, Ardo, had died of dehydration.

Nasteha is a strong and resilient girl, who really encapsulates the spirit of her parents, who despite the enormous odds stacked against them, live in hope of finding new ways to provide for their family and earn an income so they can educate their children. Your support can help make that hope a reality.

Nasteha's family is one of thousands of families in Somalia who are on the brink of starvation due to a prolonged and unrelenting drought which has destroyed crops and livestock and left people with no option but to leave their homes and farms in search of help.



Wee County Vintage Club: will host a Social Dance in Drumshallon Forge on Friday 24th Feb at 8:30pm . The brilliant Matt Leavy provides the music, while proceeds of the night go to The Simon Community, Dundalk and Drogheda, supporting Homelessness. Raffle on the night Adm €10 supper served.

Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Abuse, Feb 24th: The proposal for a universal

day of prayer was initially made in 2016 to the Vatican's Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors (PCPM) by a survivor of clerical abuse. At the time a press release from the Commission stated, **"In the experience of our members, victims/survivors have often expressed a desire for prayer as an important element in their healing process."** In response Pope Francis invited bishops to establish a special day of prayer in the Church year to support human and spiritual recovery. This day is not only for victims and survivors, who have been so severely injured, either inside or outside the Church, but also for families and communities affected by grief for their loved ones. A Candle of Atonement will be dedicated and lit at Mass on that evening.



Desert Fathers A Lenten Program for men: The program contains 4 pillars - Prayer, Penance, Spiritual reading & Charity. To find out more & join an online group, a zoom information meeting is scheduled for **Sunday Feb 19th at 8:30pm**. Meeting ID 494 625 9738 Password: 997298. Email desertfathers40@gmail.com

Mullary Cemetery Draw: Winning#41; Brian Harmon
1st Sunday of Lent (26th February): Reading I: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7; **Responsorial Psalm 50 (51)** 3-6,12-14,17 **Reading II:** Romans 5:12,17-19; **Gospel:** Matthew 4:1-11

Please take a copy of the bulletin home with you for a neighbour, relative or friend. Or Subscribe on our website for an advance copy by email.